

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5148

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MARR, NATO

SUBJECT: LORAN A

STATE PASS TO PLUMMER, FAA

REF: USNATO 4308

UK HAS DISTRIBUTED FOLLOWING NOTE ON LORAN A ISSUE:

BEGIN TEXT:

INTENDED SUSPENSION OF LORAN A CHAINS (ATLANTIC AREA),
STATEMENT BY THE UNITED KINGDOM REPRESENTATIVE. REFS (A)
AC/4-D/2293; (B) ADDENDUM TO AC/4-D/2293; (C) AC/4-DS/936

1. THE COMMITTEE KINDLY AGREED TO DEFER FURTHER DISCUSSION
OF THIS MATTER UNTIL CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES BEING EXPERIENCED
BY THE UNITED KINGDOM AUTHORITIES HAD BEEN RESOLVED. I AM NOW
ABLE TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
POSITION.

2. THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO CONTINUE
THE OPERATIONAL LORAN A SITES (I.E., THOSE LISTED
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IN APPENDIX 1 TO REF (A)) UNTIL 29 DEC 1977, IF ALL NATIONS
AGREE THAT THERE IS A CONTINUING REQUIREMENT UP TO THAT
TIME.

3. HOWEVER, THE UK BELIEVES THAT CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN SACLANT, THE MILITARY COMMITTEE AND IN TURN THE MILITARY BUDGET COMMITTEE, TO THOSE SITES (LISTED IN APPENDIX 2 TO REF (A)) NO LONGER REQUIRED ON AN OPERATIONAL BASIS. IN PARTICULAR THE NECESSITY FOR THEIR RETENTION ON A CASE AND MAINTENANCE BASIS SHOULD BE EXAMINED. THESE FACILITIES SHVXAXBLVOT(##) NOW REQUIRED, THERE IS NO FORESEEABLE USE FOR THEM, AND IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT AS TIME PASSES THE EQUIPMENT WILL EVER BE USED AGAIN. IF INDEED SOME CARE AND MAINTENANCE IS DEEMED NECESSARY IT SHOULD NONETHELESS BE ON A MINIMUM BASIS FOLLOWING THE PRECISE RECOMMENDATIONS OF SACLANT AND THE MILITARY COMMITTEE.

4. FINALLY, IN THE INTERESTS OF SAVING ALL PARTICIPATING NATIONS UNNECESSARY O&M EXPENDITURE, THE UK REGARDS IT AS IMPORTANT THAT AN EARLY DECISION IS TAKEN TO CLOSE DOWN THE REDUNDANT SITES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND IN ANY EVENT NOT LATER THAN DEC 1974. THE UK IS NOT PREPARED TO ACCEPT O&M CHANGES FOR THESE FACILITIES UNDER THE PERCENTAGE COST SHARING AGREEMENT AFTER THAT DATE.

END TEXT. MCAULIFFE

NOTE BY OC/T: (##) AS RECEIVED.

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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